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# White House 'intensifies' war on leaks

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The White House is stepping up its campaign to stop the media from divulging information it says hurts national security.

President Reagan's call to *The Washington Post's* Katherine Graham urging her not to publish a story on accused spy Ronald Pelton is but the latest salvo in the war over leaks.

"There's been a concerted effort," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said. "You could say intensified."

Wednesday, the CIA was reviewing the Post article to determine whether to seek prosecution

under a law barring disclosure of intelligence secrets.

Recent warning shots:

■ **State Department** speechwriter Spencer Warren was fired last week after he admitted leaking a classified cable from the U.S. Embassy in Argentina.

■ **CIA Director William Casey asked the Justice Department to prosecute NBC for reporting that Pelton provided the Soviets with data on a submarine surveillance project.**

■ **Secretary of State George Shultz** joined the warpath last week with: "It's disgusting the way the stuff leaks out. We've got to find the people who are

doing it and fire them."

Reagan — who admits "the White House is the leakiest place I've ever been in" — recently revealed the intercept of messages between Libya's People's Bureau in East Berlin and Tripoli before the April 5 West Berlin disco bombing.

Asked why the White House leak was justified and the Post story was not, Speakes said: "It was a carefully considered decision here to release the Libyan information ... it was a judgmental call."

Said Post Executive Editor Benjamin Bradlee: "We deleted what we felt appropriate, after discussion."